

Claims:

1. The use of partially saponified vinyl ester homopolymers and copolymers in hot-melt adhesive compositions, characterized in that the vinyl ester homopolymers and copolymers have a molecular weight $M_w < 70000$ and the partially saponified vinyl ester homopolymers and copolymers have a degree of hydrolysis of 62 to 86 mol%, and the hot-melt adhesive composition contains no mannitol.
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2. The use as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the degree of hydrolysis is 65 to 75 mol%.
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3. The use as claimed in claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the molecular weight M_w is 5000 to 30000.
4. The use as claimed in claim 1 to 3, characterized in that partially saponified vinyl acetate homopolymers, partially saponified vinyl acetate-vinyl laurate copolymers, partially saponified vinyl acetate-crotonic acid copolymers, or mixtures thereof are used.
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5. The use as claimed in claim 1 to 4, characterized in that the hot-melt adhesive composition further comprises sorbitol.
- 30 6. The use as claimed in claim 1 to 5, characterized in that the hot-melt adhesive composition further comprises waxes.
7. The use as claimed in claim 1 to 6, characterized in that the hot-melt adhesive composition further comprises fatty acid esters.
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8. The use as claimed in claim 1 to 7, characterized in that the hot-melt adhesive composition further

comprises water-soluble plasticizers.

9. The use as claimed in claim 1 to 8, characterized in that the hot-melt adhesive composition further comprises antioxidants.
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10. The use as claimed in claim 1 to 9 as adhesives for paper, paperboard, cardboard, wood, and plastic.

New version of the claims:

1. The use of partially saponified vinyl ester homopolymers and copolymers in hot-melt adhesive compositions, characterized in that the vinyl ester homopolymers and copolymers have a molecular weight Mw < 70000 and the partially saponified vinyl ester homopolymers and copolymers have a degree of hydrolysis of 62 to 86 mol%, having randomly distributed vinyl alcohol units, and the hot-melt adhesive composition contains no mannitol and no anionic emulsifier.
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2. The use as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the degree of hydrolysis is 65 to 75 mol%.
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3. The use as claimed in claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the molecular weight Mw is 5000 to 30000.
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4. The use as claimed in claim 1 to 3, characterized in that partially saponified vinyl acetate homopolymers, partially saponified vinyl acetate-vinyl laurate copolymers, partially saponified vinyl acetate-crotonic acid copolymers, or mixtures thereof are used.
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5. The use as claimed in claim 1 to 4, characterized in that the hot-melt adhesive composition further comprises sorbitol.
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6. The use as claimed in claim 1 to 5, characterized in that the hot-melt adhesive composition further comprises waxes.
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7. The use as claimed in claim 1 to 6, characterized in that the hot-melt adhesive composition further comprises fatty acid esters.

8. The use as claimed in claim 1 to 7, characterized in that the hot-melt adhesive composition further comprises water-soluble plasticizers.

5 9. The use as claimed in claim 1 to 8, characterized in that the hot-melt adhesive composition further comprises antioxidants.

10. The use as claimed in claim 1 to 9 as adhesives
10 for paper, paperboard, cardboard, wood, and plastic.